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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 164
By Trail

A RESOLUTION To honor and congratulate the Lady Patriots of Oakland High School on their outstanding basketball season.

WHEREAS, The Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to their families and schools and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, The Oakland High School Lady Patriots are one such estimable team; during their 2000-01 season, they achieved tremendous success, surpassing that of all previous teams in the history of Oakland girls basketball; and

WHEREAS, Compiling a magnificent record of twenty-nine wins against only five losses, the Lady Patriots established a school record for victories in a single season; and

WHEREAS, Through hard work and stalwart determination, the Lady Patriots parlayed their innate talents into a District 7-AAA Championship; and

WHEREAS, In the Region 4-AAA Tournament, this estimable group of young ladies finished as runner-up to the famed Shelbyville Golden Eaglettes; and

WHEREAS, Following the Region Tournament, the Lady Patriots won their Sectional contest to earn a berth in the TSSAA Class AAA Girls Basketball State Tournament; in doing so, they became the first Oakland team to reach that prestigious tournament; and

WHEREAS, At Murphy Center, the Lady Patriots quickly proved that their season's success was not a fluke; enjoying their appearance at the tournament, the young ladies defeated Dyersburg and then Morristown West to extend the visit to its maximum length and reach the championship game; and

WHEREAS, In the Finals, Oakland again squared off against the nationally-ranked Shelbyville Golden Eaglettes; in a tight battle, the Lady Patriots fell by a score of 57-50; and

WHEREAS, This season's Oakland Lady Patriots took their program to a level of success that was previously unreached, and they will long be remembered by all associated with Oakland girls' basketball; the young ladies who achieved this remarkable success were: Seniors Amy Clark, Elizabeth Davis, Ella Floyd, Renee Gaines, Sarah Kumpf, Keonia Layden, Kelleigh Miller, and Jessica Todd; Juniors Stacey Jernigan, Megan Riddle, and Cora Beth Smith; Sophomores Ashley Brown, Kaycie Jones, Megan Lufkin, Rachelle Ramsey, and Jenne Webb; and Freshman Taran Hayes; and

WHEREAS, These talented young ladies were ably guided by Coach Jennifer Grandstaff and her Assistant Coaches, Missy Blissard, Mike Cantrell, and Carlita Elder; they laid the foundation for the Lady Patriots' success by sharing their substantial knowledge and love of basketball with the team; and

WHEREAS, The coaches and players received much assistance from the team's Managers, Matt Bingham, Elizabeth Schott, and Mel Scudder; and

WHEREAS, Kim DeReamer, the team's Trainer, played an instrumental role in the Lady Patriots' success by ensuring that each individual was physically prepared for each game; and

WHEREAS, Principal Ken Nolan and Athletic Director Randy King greatly contributed to the Lady Patriots' success by providing their fullest support to the basketball program; and

WHEREAS, The basketball players at Oakland High School epitomize all that is good in the ideal student-athlete; they have achieved notable success on the basketball court while displaying the utmost character both inside and outside of the gymnasium; and

WHEREAS, The stalwart dedication, strong work ethic, and vast talent of this group of young ladies not only led to an outstanding season but also surely bode well for their future success; and

WHEREAS, This General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the Oakland Lady Patriots for their success on the court and for serving as excellent examples of the high quality of the youth of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That this Body joins the Oakland High School administration, faculty, staff, students, and fans in celebrating the Lady Patriots' remarkable success during the 2000-01 season, and we wish them every future success, both on and off the court.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.